

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. An integrated communication system for an aircraft having at least one
2 passenger seat, comprising:
3 an integrated signal unit operable to receive and transmit a plurality of
4 signals of disparate nature to and from a user of the at least one passenger seat in the
5 aircraft; a plurality of aircraft communication links interfaced with the integrated
6 signal unit for carrying the plurality of signals of disparate nature throughout the aircraft
7 from sources of the plurality of signals of disparate nature; and
8 a receiving device interfaced to at least one passenger seat and in
9 communication with the integrated signal unit for receiving at least one of the plurality of
10 signals and outputting a signal to a passenger in the passenger seat.
1 2. The system recited in claim 1, wherein the plurality of signals of disparate
2 nature comprise the group consisting essentially of audio, video and data signals.
1 3. The system recited in claim 1, wherein the plurality of aircraft
2 communication links further comprise telecommunications wiring.
1 4. The system recited in claim 3, wherein the receiving device comprises a
2 speaker.
1 5. The system recited in claim 3, wherein the receiving device comprises a
2 video monitor.
1 6. The system recited in claim 3, wherein the receiving device comprises a
2 telephone handset.

1 7. The system recited in claim 3, wherein the receiving device comprises an
2 intercom.

1 8. A communications system for use in an aircraft, comprising:
2 a seat unit operable to receive a plurality of signals bussed through the
3 aircraft; a first audio processing circuit operable to generate audio signals, the first
4 audio processing circuit being coupled to the seat unit over a wireline communication
5 channel;

6 a first telephone signal processing circuit operable to receive and send
7 telephone signals, the first telephone signal processing unit being coupled to the seat unit
8 through the wireline communication channel;

9 the seat unit further comprising:

10 a first audio processing receiving circuit operable to receive the audio
11 signals for processing and delivery to a passenger audio transducer;

12 a second telephone signal processing circuit that is operable to receive and
13 send the telephone the telephone signals for delivery to and from a passenger telephone
14 handset; and

15 electrical circuitry coupled to and shared by the first audio processing
16 receiving circuit and the second telephone processing circuit.

1 9. The system recited in claim 8, wherein the plurality of signals comprise
2 the group consistently essentially of audio, video and data signals.

1 10. The system recited in claim 9 wherein the first audio processing unit
2 comprises a radio audio processing unit.

1 11. The system recited in claim 10, further comprising a second audio
2 processing unit operable to generate audio and video signals and being coupled to the seat
3 unit over a wireline communication channel.

1 12. The system recited in claim 11, wherein the passenger transducer
2 comprises a speaker.

1 13. The system recited in claim 11, wherein the passenger transducer
2 comprises a video monitor.

1 14. The system recited in claim 11, further comprising a telephone handset
2 coupled to the first telephone signal processing unit for directing telephone signals to the
3 passenger.